

Lie Algebras, BPS States, and String Duality -1-

Q. Introduction:

I'd like to begin with some disclaimers.

I'm not working on this subject right now - so might be hazy on some details.

My talk is based on a review I wrote
hep-th/9710198

But I agreed to speak at this conference because I think the topic is important and I thought it might be useful to ~~call~~ call attention to some ideas and open problems which have remained in a state of suspended animation for the past 8 or 9 years.

The ideas center around 3 loosely related topics:

A. Geometrical realizations of affine Lie algebras

B. Denominator products of certain GKM's and Gromov-Witten Theory

C. ~~Denominator~~ Denominator products + B.H. state counting

A. Geometrical Algebras

~~Some notes~~

I need to remind you of some standard stuff regarding duality:

1. Narain theory
2. Heterotic / M / IIA
3. BPS states
4. BPS algebras

1. Het / $T^d \times \mathbb{R}^{10-d}$ & Narain Theory (1985)

Comp's of heterotic theory on tori are based on the Narain families of CFT's

Let $\Gamma^{p,q}$ be the even unimodular lattice

embed: $\Gamma^{p,q} \hookrightarrow \Gamma^{p,q} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{p,q} = \mathbb{R}^{p,0} \oplus \mathbb{R}^{0,q}$

CFT: $\Gamma^{p,q}$ specifies periodicity of cft bosons. \downarrow
 $\mathbb{P} = P_L \oplus P_R$
 Space of CFT's

$$\mathcal{N}(p,q) = O(\Gamma^{p,q}) \backslash O(p,q; \mathbb{R}) / O(p) \times O(q)$$

Heterotic string $p = 16 + d$
 $q = d.$

Now I want to discuss what is ~~the~~
 the low energy gauge symmetry - as a function
 of these moduli:

We need to understand a little about the
 vertex operators and BRST cohomology

$$\text{Het} = (26 \text{ bosonic})_L \otimes (10 \text{ super})_R$$

Physical particles \leftrightarrow

$$V = \mathcal{P}(\partial x) e^{ik \cdot x} (z) \otimes \mathcal{P}(\tilde{\psi}, \partial \tilde{x}) e^{i\tilde{k} \cdot \tilde{x}} (\bar{z})$$

$$k = (E, \vec{q}; P_L)$$

$$\tilde{k} = (E, \vec{q}; P_R)$$

$$\mathcal{P} = P_L \oplus P_R \in \Gamma^{16+d, d}$$

$$\text{BRST: } \left. \begin{array}{l} N + \frac{1}{2} k^2 - 1 = 0 \\ \tilde{N} + \frac{1}{2} \tilde{k}^2 - \frac{1}{2} = 0 \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow m^2 = E^2 - \vec{q}^2 = 2N - 2 + \vec{P}_L^2 = 2\tilde{N} - 1 + \vec{P}_R^2$$

Generic points in moduli space: $U(1)^{16+2d}$ gauge

Symmetry associated with $\mathcal{P} = 0$:

$$\begin{array}{l} \partial x^i e^{ik \cdot x} \otimes \tilde{\psi}^\mu e^{i\tilde{k} \cdot \tilde{x}} \\ \partial x^\mu e^{ik \cdot x} \otimes \tilde{\psi}^i e^{i\tilde{k} \cdot \tilde{x}} \end{array} \quad k^2 = \tilde{k}^2 = 0$$

$$S = \int \sum_{a=1}^{16+d} F^a * F^a + \dots$$

However, there are subvarieties of $W(p, q)$

where for $ly = \oplus A, D, E \quad rk \leq 16 + 2d$

$\Gamma(ly) \subset \Gamma^{p, q}$ with $\Gamma(ly)_R = 0$.

$\Rightarrow P = (\alpha; 0) \quad \alpha = \text{root vector}, \alpha^2 = 2$

\Rightarrow for such P
 ~~$V_\alpha = e^{ik \cdot x} \otimes \tilde{\psi} e^{i\tilde{k} \cdot x}$~~
 ~~$k = (E, \vec{p}, k)$~~
 ~~$\tilde{k} = (E, \vec{q}, 0)$~~
 ~~$V_\alpha = e^{ik \cdot x} \otimes \tilde{\psi} e^{i\tilde{k} \cdot x}$~~

$m^2 = \vec{\alpha}^2 - 2 = 0$.

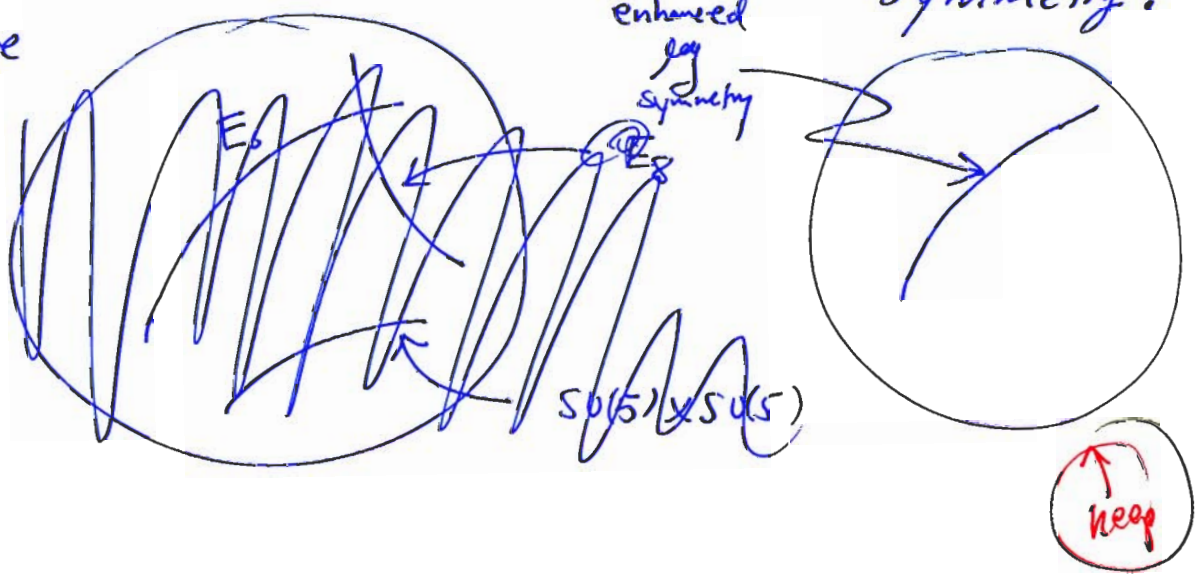
Now the interactions of these particles follow from the OPE

$V_\alpha(z_1) V_\beta(z_2) \sim \frac{f_{\alpha, \beta}}{z_1 - z_2} V_{\alpha+\beta}(z_2) + \dots$

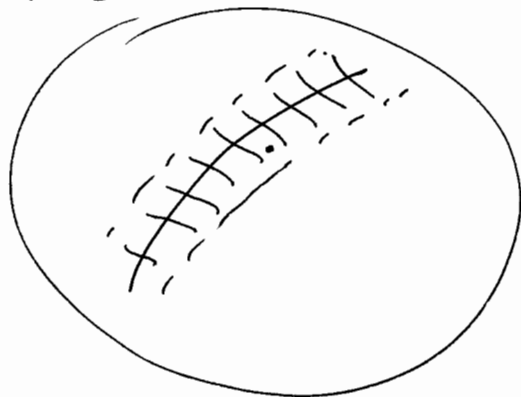
essentially the Frenkel-Kac construction.

$\Rightarrow S = \int \text{Tr}(F * F) + \dots$ Nonabelian gauge symmetry!

So we have the picture:



Now let us look in the neighborhood of these subvarieties:



Natural connection on the CFT - particle ~~exists~~ exists but now

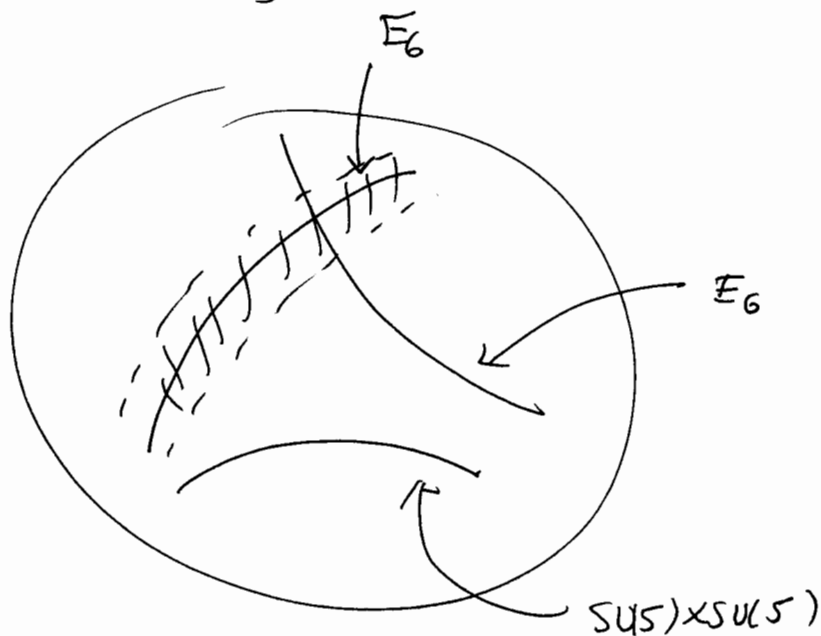
$$P = (P_L; P_R) \text{ with } P^2 = \vec{P}_R^2 - \vec{P}_L^2 = -2$$

$$m^2 = \vec{P}_L^2 - 2 = \vec{P}_R^2 > 0$$

⇒ gauge bosons are massive.

An adjoint scalar field gets a vev and spontaneously breaks the gauge symmetry.

Now, of course there are many different such subvarieties



by question:

Is there a way to unify these gauge symmetries?

2. Heterotic/M/IIA Duality (1995)

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Fact: $W(19,3) =$ moduli of Ricci flat
vol=1 metrics on $K3$

→ M-theory / $K3 \times \mathbb{R}^7$ has moduli

$$W(19,3) \times \mathbb{R}_+$$

and 16 sup's.

→ Low energy sugra coincides with Het / $T^3 \times \mathbb{R}^7$

So: "Het / $T^3 \times \mathbb{R}^7 \cong$ M / $K3 \times \mathbb{R}^7$ "

A very nontrivial isomorphism.

~~More precisely a host of nontrivial mathematical facts~~

More precisely a host of nontrivial mathematical facts are explained by such an isomorphism and we expect it to hold if we ever really define the ~~left and right~~ objects.

Let us study the gauge symmetry

"gaugefield" $C \in \Omega^3(X_{11})$ (Very rough -
H. Sati will say more)

Kk reduce w^I ~~is~~ basis for $\mathcal{H}^2(K3)$

$I=1, \dots, 22$

$$C = A_I(x) \omega^I(y) \Rightarrow U(1)^{22} \text{ gauge symmetry}$$

Agrees w/ Het/ $T^3 \times \mathbb{R}^7$ at generic point of $W(19,3)$,

What about ES. Loci?

\exists M2 brane: solitonic object in 11-d sugra
Like a rubber sheet.

If $\Sigma \subset K3$ is a cycle you can wrap it.

Appears as a particle in \mathbb{R}^7

These particles have charge:

$$e^i \int_{\mathbb{R}^7 \times \Sigma} C = e^i \int_{\mathbb{R}^7} A_I(x) \left(\int_{\Sigma} \omega^I \right) = e^i \int A_I(x) g^I$$

g^I only depends on homology class

$$H_2(K3; \mathbb{Z}) \cong \mathbb{Z}^{19,3}$$

Particles have mass = $\text{vol}(\Sigma)$

Witten observed:

The enhanced symmetry locus on $W(19,3)$
= locus of K3 surfaces with ADE singularities!

Local geometry near a singularity

$$\mathcal{M} \leftrightarrow \Gamma \subset SU(2) \quad \text{DuVal-McKay}$$

X

\downarrow H.K. resolution: ALE space

\mathbb{C}^2/Γ

basis of exceptional curves $z \mapsto \alpha \in \Delta$

$$\Sigma_\alpha \cdot \Sigma_\beta = -A_{\alpha\beta}$$

Wrap M2 on $\Sigma_\alpha \Rightarrow$ massless particle in limit

Susy: M2/ Σ_α is a particle in a supermultiplet including a vector particle

M-Theory on an ADE singularity has ADE gauge symmetry!

Closely related, but more convenient:

$$M/X_{10} \times S^1 = IIA/X_{10} \rightarrow -9-$$

$$\text{Het}/T^4 \times \mathbb{R}^6 = IIA/K3 \times \mathbb{R}^6$$

Now $N(2,0,4) \times \mathbb{R}_+$

Instead of M2 we have D2 + other things, I will come to.

Before leaving this topic - ~~I have always~~ beautiful as it is, I have always found this discussion to be incomplete and unsatisfactory.

On the M/IIA side we never computed the interactions of gauge particles.

We would like to compute the nonabelian interactions geometrically. ~~and understand better where this nonabelian gauge symmetry "comes from"~~

3. BPS States

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These theories have susy. So \exists hermitian op's Q_α on the Hilbertspace transforming as spinors. In fact many

$$\{Q_\alpha^i, Q_\beta^j\} = M_{\alpha\beta} \left(\begin{array}{c} \text{momentum, charge} \\ \downarrow \qquad \searrow \\ \delta^{ij} (C\Gamma^\mu)_{\alpha\beta} P_\mu + J_{\alpha\beta} Z^{ij} \end{array} \right)$$

1 particle Hilbert spaces = induced rep's from the little superalgebra

\therefore induced from rep's of a Clifford algebra.

For some P_μ, Z^{ij} the quadratic form is degenerate

\Rightarrow These lead to "small" or "BPS" rep's of susy

They are exceptional - hence more rigid
- existence is often independent of small, ~~the~~ and even large changes of physical parameters.

They play a distinguished role.

Exple 1: Consider $\text{Het}/T^d \times \mathbb{R}^{10-d}$

$$\{Q_\alpha, Q_\beta\} = (CP^m)_{\alpha\beta} P_\mu \quad \alpha=1, \dots, 16$$

Typical $P^2 = -m^2 \neq 0$

$$\dim \mathcal{H} = 2^8 = 128_B + 128_F$$

If $P^2 = 0, P \neq 0$ $\not\propto$ degenerate on $\frac{1}{2}$ space

$$\dim \mathcal{H} = 2^4 = 8_B + 8_F = \text{YM multiplet for R-moving groundstate, so}$$

These states correspond to VO's of the form

$$\mathbb{H} P_I(\partial x) e^{ik \cdot x} \otimes \cancel{\mathbb{H}} \tilde{\psi} \cdot \tilde{\psi} e^{i\tilde{k} \cdot \tilde{x}} \quad \text{(keep)}$$

$$\tilde{k}^2 = 0, \quad \text{so } k^2 = 2 - 2N$$

where P_I is at level $N \Rightarrow I = 1, \dots, P_{24}(N)$

$$\frac{1}{\eta^{24}} = q^{-1} \sum_{N \geq 0} P_{24}(N) q^N$$

States are massive $m^2 = \vec{P}_R^2$

charged $P \in \mathbb{H}^{16+d,d}$

Note: $\dim \mathcal{H}_{\text{BPS}}(P) = d(P^2)$ since $P^2 = \vec{P}_R^2 - \vec{P}_L^2 = 2N - 2$
as required by T-duality.

Exple 2: ~~IIA/k3 x R^6~~ IIA/k3 x R^6 = Het/T4 x R^6 - 12 -

It is interesting to compare with the dual description under Het/T4 = IIA/k3.

• Charge lattice ~~IIA/k3 x R^6~~ $\cong \Pi^{20,4} \cong H^*(k3; \mathbb{Z})$

now involves H^0, H^2, H^4

• BPS states are ~~identified~~ identified with cohomology classes on the moduli space of coherent sheaves \mathcal{E} on k3

$$P = v(\mathcal{E}) = \text{ch } \mathcal{E} \sqrt{\Delta} = (r, c_1, ch_2 + r)$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{BPS}} \cong H^*(\mathcal{M}(v)) \otimes \pi$$

↑
minimal rep^t of
the little superalgebra

Amazing mathematical fact:

$$\dim \mathcal{L}_{\text{BPS}}(P) = 16 p_{24}(N) !$$

Example: $v = (1, 0, 1-L)$

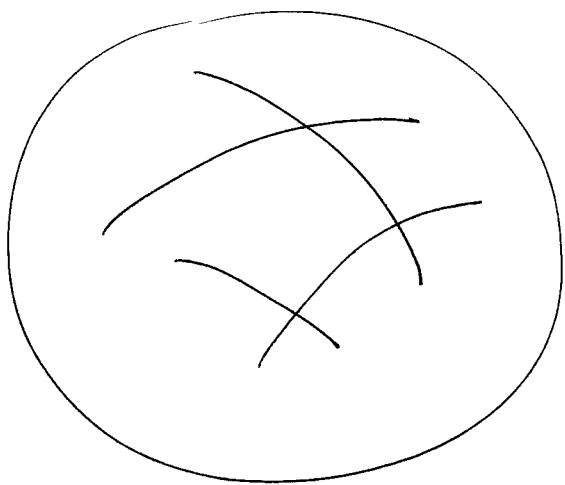
$$\mathcal{M}(v) = \text{Hilb}^L(k3) \rightarrow \text{Sym}^L(k3)$$

and for any surface we have Göttsche's formula

$$\sum g^L \chi(\text{Hilb}^L S) = \frac{\prod (1+g^n)^{\text{bodd}}}{\prod (1-g^n)^{\text{bev}}} \stackrel{k3}{=} \frac{g}{\eta^{24}}$$

4. BPS Algebras : Now I start to make some more speculative comments.

Let us return to The Narain picture



~~At~~ At different loci ~~all~~ different VO's become massless.

Is there a unified symmetry?

Now recall a standard fact from CFT

$\{V^i(z)\}$ mutually local, $\dim=1$, Vir primaries

Then $V^i(z_1)V^j(z_2) \sim \dots + \frac{f_{ik}^{ij}}{z_{12}} V^k(z_2)$

f_{ik}^{ij} define structure constants of a Lie algebra.

Uses contour deformation + holomorphy.

This was formalized by Lian + Zuckerman

Thm: Gh #1 BRST coho. of a V.O.A. is canonically a Lie algebra.

For heterotic BPS states:

$$V_{I, k, \tilde{k}} = P_I e^{ikx} \otimes e^{i\tilde{k}\tilde{x}} \quad \cancel{V^2 = 0}$$

~~involve left and right movers. Moreover the OPE of two such generally contains no BPS state.~~

Then $P_I e^{ik \cdot x}$ are $\dim = 1$ Vir. primaries

However given two states V^1, V^2 in general they are not mutually local

Observe:

left moving ^{current's} mutually local $\iff (k_1 + k_2)^2 = 0$

\iff OPE contains a ^{nonzero} BRST State.

$\iff \exists$ holomorphic pole $\frac{1}{z_{12}}$

For such pairs ~~we must have~~
it makes sense to set:

$$\mathcal{R}(V_{k_1 \tilde{k}_1}, V_{k_2 \tilde{k}_2}) := \oint_{z_2} dz_1 V_1 V_2$$

You can use this observation to define a product (in different ways) on BPS states. None are really satisfactory.

For example, given a pair of states you can boost them to be mutually local. \Rightarrow algebraic structure on

$$\bigoplus_P \mathcal{H}_{\text{BPS}}(P)$$

1. defined everywhere on $\mathcal{N}(p, q)$
2. Coincides with Lie product on massless states
3. Extends to ∞ -dim Lie algebra on some subsets of BPS states

Example:

$$V_{L, S} = S \cdot \partial X e^{i(t+X) \frac{L}{\sqrt{2V}}} \quad L \in \mathbb{Z}$$

$$\mathcal{R}(V_{L, S}, V_{L', S'}) = S S' \frac{L}{\sqrt{2V}} i(\partial t + \partial X) \delta_{L+L', 0}$$

keep

~~$V_{L, S}$~~

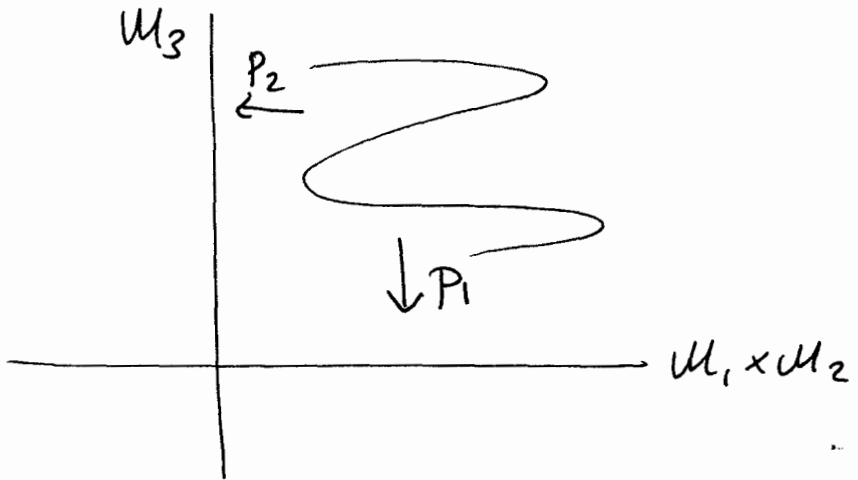
Now we have a natural question: What would the type II description of this product be?

A natural ^{guess/} proposal (HM 96)

$$H^*(\mathcal{M}(v_1)) \otimes H^*(\mathcal{M}(v_2)) \rightarrow H^*(\mathcal{M}(v_1+v_2))$$

$$\mathcal{E} \subset \mathcal{M}_1 \times \mathcal{M}_2 \times \mathcal{M}_3$$

$$:= \{ (\mathcal{E}_1, \mathcal{E}_2, \mathcal{E}_3) \mid 0 \rightarrow \mathcal{E}_2 \rightarrow \mathcal{E}_3 \rightarrow \mathcal{E}_1 \rightarrow 0 \}$$



$$\mathcal{R}(\omega_1 \otimes \omega_2) = (p_2)_* \cdot p_1^*(\omega_1 \otimes \omega_2)$$

This construction was inspired by Nakajima's work and also occurs in Ringel-Hall algebras.

Nakajima has two examples:

- $\bigoplus_L H^*(\text{Hilb}^L(\mathbb{C}^2/S))$ module for Heisenberg algebra
- Rank r vector bundles on $\widetilde{\mathbb{C}^2/r} \rightsquigarrow$ Highest wt modules for $\widehat{\mathfrak{gl}(r)}_{\mathbb{C}}$

Use duality to translate this into statements about BPS states — supports the idea that these products are indeed dual descriptions.

~~$$V_{L,S} \longleftrightarrow \text{D0 branes}$$

$$e^{iEt} \rho_{\mathbb{I}} e^{\frac{i}{\sqrt{2}} \left(\frac{L-r}{\sqrt{2}} - rV \right)} \times e^{i\sigma \cdot y} \longleftrightarrow \text{D0D2D4 bound states}$$~~

~~$$\bigoplus_{\mathbb{Z}} H^*(\mathcal{M}(r, c, r-l))$$~~

~~algebra of D0 branes acts as a Heisenberg algebra on this module.~~

~~One can do something similar for ALE singularities. Finite volume $k3$ surface \rightarrow deformation of N 's construction.~~

D0D2D4 with $v = (r, \mathbf{0}, r-L)$
corresponds to

$$e^{iEt} \rho_{\mathbf{I}} e^{\frac{i}{\sqrt{2}} \left(\frac{L-r}{v} - rv \right) X} \otimes \tilde{\psi} e^{\frac{i}{\sqrt{2}} \left(\frac{L-r}{v} + rv \right) \tilde{X}}$$

~~$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\partial_t + \partial_X)$$~~

Our $V_{L,S}$ correspond to D0 branes. So

$$\bigoplus_l H^*(\mathcal{M}(r, \mathbf{0}, r-l))$$

is a module for the action of the subalgebra of D0 branes.

Note that it is not a Heisenberg algebra but

~~$$\frac{i}{\sqrt{2}v} (\partial_t + \partial_X)$$~~

acts on this module as the c-number r !

One can do something similar for K3 developing an ALE singularity. Finite $V \Rightarrow$ deformation of Nakajima's construction.

(Even $\vec{c}_1 \neq 0 \Rightarrow$ deformation of Heisenberg module.)

1. Gritsenko + Nikulin constructed ∞ -dim ^{holomorphic} GKM's ~~assoc~~ associated to different families of K3 surfaces using automorphic forms. Closely related.

2. Obviously you can generalize the type II construction to CY 3-folds. Morrison + Moore computed for curves of ADE sing's + recovered ^{fid. Lie alge.} ~~Recent work of Joyce~~ ABCDEFG

3. Recent work of x Joyce

Now, we've never quite known what to do with these algebras. In the remainder of the talk I am going to mention some ~~more evidence~~ evidence that they should play an important role in string duality.

B. Gromov-Witten Theory

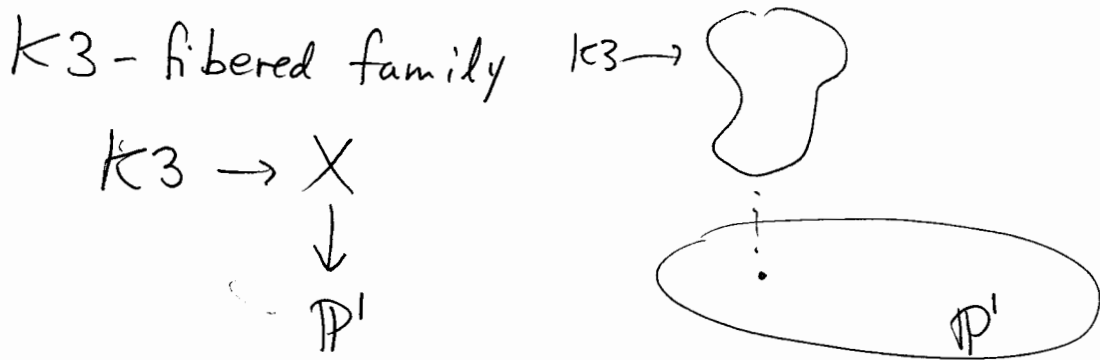
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In some examples Borchers product, denominator products of GKM. are related to GW invariants

- X C.Y. 3-fold.
- Gromov-Witten potential:

$$F_{GW}(\lambda, t) = \sum_{h \geq 0} \sum_{\beta \in H_2(X, \mathbb{Z})} N_{h, \beta} \lambda^{2h-2} e^{-t \cdot \beta}$$

$N_{h, \beta}$ = (rational) Gromov-Witten invariants.



Duality: $\text{IIA} / X \times \mathbb{R}^4 \cong \text{Het} / K3' \times T^2 \times \mathbb{R}^4$

$\text{Vol}(\mathbb{P}^1) \rightarrow \infty$ leaves behind the Kähler classes on $K3$

Consider

$$F_1 = \sum N_{1,\beta} q^\beta \quad \text{turnsoot} = \log \Xi$$

Ξ denominator product of GKM

~~Amplitude:~~ Comes about: F_1 related to heterotic loop.

$$I = \int_{\mathcal{F}} \frac{d^2z}{y} \mathbf{f}(q) \overline{\oplus}_{\Gamma^{2,S+2}}(q, \bar{q})$$

$$\mathbf{f}(q) = \sum_{n=-1}^{\infty} c(n) q^n \quad \text{wt } -s/2 \text{ related to elliptic genus}$$

$$\Gamma^{2,S+2} = \mathbb{H}^{1,1} \oplus \Gamma^{1,S+1}, \quad \Gamma^{1,S+1} = \text{Picard lattice of K3 fiber.}$$

Function on $O(S+2,2)/O(S+2) \times O(2) = \mathbb{R}^{S+1,1} + iV^{S+1,1} \subseteq \mathbb{C}^{S+1,1}$

$$I = -\log \|\Phi(z)\|^2$$

$$\Phi(z) = e^{2\pi i \rho \cdot z} \prod_{\substack{r>0 \\ \text{in } \Gamma^{S+1,1}}} (1 - e^{2\pi i r \cdot z})^{c(-r/2)}$$

(Proves Borcherds's thm.)



Φ automorphic for $O(\Gamma^{S+2,2})$ of weight $c(0)/2$

Example :

$$X = (S \times E) / \mathbb{Z}_2$$

$S / \mathbb{Z}_2 = \text{Enriques.}$

$E = \text{elliptic curve}$

$$\pi_{1, S+1} = \mathbb{H}^{1,9}$$

$$f(q) = \frac{\prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1+q^{2n+1})^8}{\prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1+q^n)^8} = q^{-1} \frac{1}{\prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1-q^n)^8 (1+q^{2n})^8} = \left(\frac{\eta(2\tau)}{\eta(\tau)\eta(4\tau)} \right)^8$$

Φ denominator product "Fake Monster-Lie superalgebra"

2 Remarks / Open Problems

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1. What is relation between these GKM's and the algebra of BPS states?

Known that: $F_1 = \sum_{\substack{\mathcal{M} \\ \text{BPS}}} \log m^2 - \sum_{\substack{\mathcal{M} \\ \text{BPS}}} \log m^2$

2. For general C.Y. Gopakumar-Vafa
rewrite

$$F_{GV}(\lambda, g) = \sum_{d \geq 1} \sum_{S \geq 0} \sum_{\beta} n_{\beta}^{(S)} \frac{1}{d} \left(2 \sin \frac{d\lambda}{2} \right)^{2S-2} g^{d\beta}$$

$n_{\beta}^{(S)}$ = integer GV invariants \sim dimen's of D0D2 BPS states

$$\Rightarrow e^{F_{GV}} = \prod_{\substack{k \geq 1 \\ \beta \in h_2}} \left(1 - e^{2\pi i k \lambda} g^{\beta} \right)^{k n_{\beta}^{(0)}} \cdot \prod_{\beta} \left(1 - g^{\beta} \right)^{n_{\beta}^{(1)}} \cdot \prod_{S \geq 1} \dots^{n_{\beta}^{(S)}}$$

Work with Harvey \Rightarrow essentially Borchers products don't converge

Suggestive...

Can be understood as a sum over BPS states

C. Black Hole State Counting

* When charges are large, BPS states are very massive - one might expect them to be related to supersymmetric B.H.'s

* ~~One~~ One can sometimes argue that they are continuously connected to BH's - basis for S+V's ~~accounting for~~ Statistical derivation of BH entropy for certain 5D susy BH's.

But generalizations to 4D state counting harder. Recent activity

* Consider $Het/T^6 \times \mathbb{R}^4$

BPS states have charge lattice $\mathbb{I}^{22,6}$

But this only the lattice of electric charges. There are electromagnetic duals and the full electric + magnetic lattice is

$$(q_e, q_m) \in \mathbb{I}_{el}^{22,6} \oplus \mathbb{I}_{mag}^{22,6}$$

By T-duality

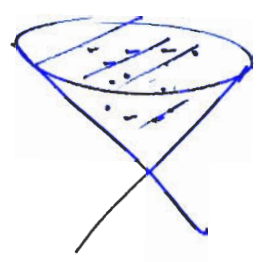
$$\dim \mathcal{H}_{BPS}(q_e, q_m) = \mathcal{D}(\frac{1}{2} q_e^2, \frac{1}{2} q_m^2, q_e \cdot q_m)$$

Now ~~2000~~ 9 years ago DVV proposed

$$\sum_{N, M, L} D(N, M, L) e^{2\pi i N \sigma} e^{2\pi i M \rho} e^{2\pi i L \nu} = \Phi^{-1}$$

$$\Phi = e^{2\pi i (p\sigma + q\rho + y\nu)} \prod_{(n, m, l) > 0} \left(1 - e^{2\pi i (n\rho + m\sigma + l\nu)} \right)^{c(n, m, l)}$$

$\mathbb{R}^{1,2}$



$$\sum c(n, l) q^n y^l = k3 \text{ elliptic genus.}$$

$$\Phi = \Delta_5^2, \Delta_5 =$$

Gritsenko + Nikulin = denominator product for a GKM superalgebra

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & -2 & -2 \\ -2 & 2 & -2 \\ -2 & -2 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \text{"automorphic correction"}$$

$$SO(2, 3; \mathbb{Z}) \quad \cancel{Sp(4, 2)} \quad \cancel{U(2, 2)}$$

Argument used 6D strings + 1 loop formula mentioned above. Never clear if it was true

Recently Strominger, Shih, Yin gave an independent argument!

$$\text{Het}/T^6 = \text{IIA}/k3 \times T^2$$

$\left. \begin{array}{l} \{ \\ \} \end{array} \right\} \text{D0 D2 D4 D6 branes : Interpret as } \\ \text{KK monopoles. Define an index.} \\ \text{Strong coupling limit:} \\ \text{IIA}/k3 \times S^1$

But 5D black hole degeneracies are computed by $\text{Ell}(q, y; \text{Sym}^N k3)$

$$\sum_{k \geq 0} p^k \text{Ell}(q, y; \text{Sym}^N k3) = \prod \frac{1}{(1 - p^k q^n y^l)^{c(n, k, l)}}$$

puzzles remain...

Conclusion

~~Infinite/direct~~

BPS states seem to be associated with some α -dimal algebraic structures.

~~They~~ They have nontrivial realizations in algebraic geometry and ~~are~~ are connected with GW theory and black hole entropy.

But the role of the algebraic structure and even the precise definition are obscure.

Lot's to do. Lot's of open problems.

Conclusion

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Except for the recent work of Strominger et al. ~~at least~~ almost everything I said was known about 10 years ago.

Nobody ever made the connections, or explained precisely why these GKM denominator products appear.

There is quite a lot to do!